

HEAVEN'S

METAL

ALL METAL HARD ROCK ALL THE TIME



VENI DOMINE

GALACTIC COWBOYS
IMMORTAL SOULS
ROB ROCK
THIS FIRES EMBRACE



Dec/Jan 2008 Issue #72 \$2.95



GRAB YOUR CHILDREN, LOCK YOUR DOORS, BOARD UP YOUR WINDOWS AND TAKE COVER BECAUSE THERE IS A THUNDEROUS STORM COMING THROUGH AND THEY NAMED THIS ONE MORTIFICATION!!!

THIS IS THE EXACT FEELING I GOT WHEN I POPPED IN MORTIFICATIONS LATEST RELEASE LIVE HUMANITARIAN. THIS SKULL CRUSHING SHOW WAS RECORDED LIVE AT THE IMAX THEATRE IN PERTH IN 2006 AND SHOWCASES THE THUNDEROUS INTENSITY THAT MORTIFICATION BRINGS TO THE STAGE. FOR THE MOST PART LIVE HUMANITARIAN SHOWCASES SONGS OFF OF "ERASING THE GOBLIN" AND MORE RECENT MORTIFICATION RELEASES SUCH AS "HAMMER OF GOD". STOP BEFORE YOU ASSUME THAT THIS LIVE CD IS ONLY FILLED WITH NEWER STUFF, BECAUSE YOU HAVE SOME CLASSIC MUSIC WEAVED INTO THIS DISC. FOR EXAMPLE YOU'VE GOT "STANDING AT THE DOOR OF DEATH" OFF OF THE SILVER CORD IS SEVERED AND "CHAPEL OF HOPE" OFF OF ENVISION EVANGELENE. I LOVE WHEN A BAND DOESN'T SOLEY USE NEW MATERIAL IN A LIVE CD BECAUSE THAT TO ME WATERS IT DOWN A BIT. I THINK WHAT STEVE ROWE AND MORTIFICATION HAVE DONE WITH LIVE HUMANITARIAN IS AWESOME AND NOT TO MENTION THAT THIS WHOLE RECORDING PROCESS WILL EVENTUALLY BECOME A LIVE DVD. TO TOP THINGS OFF STEVE GIVES US HIS SPOKEN WORD SEGMENTS WHICH I FIND VERY UPLIFTING AND INFORMATIVE. STEVE SPEAKS FROM EXPERIENCES THAT THE MAJORITY OF US WILL NEVER HAVE TO TRY AND SURVIVE AND FOR THIS ALONE I GIVE HIM MY EAR.



CHRISTIAN XTREME ZINE
WWW.CHRISTIANXTREME.COM

**TRUE AUSTRALIAN JESUS
REVOLUTION METAL!**

EPHESIANS CHAP. 4 V 28

HE WHO HAS BEEN STEALING MUST STEAL NO LONGER, BUT MUST WORK, DOING SOMETHING USEFUL WITH HIS OWN HANDS, THAT HE MAY HAVE SOMETHING TO SHARE WITH THOSE IN NEED.

WWW.ROWEPRODUCTIONS.COM

HEAVEN'S METAL

Storm The Gates Of Hell

As I wrap up this issue and get it ready to go to the printer, I am listening to the great new Demon Hunter album. It reminds me of a conversation I had with The Awakening's Ashton Nyte as we drove to downtown Austin to hang out and taste the fine city. I was playing him a tune from *Summer Of Darkness*, probably "My Heartstrings Come Undone," and he asked who it was. Our friend (Youngside's Arlene Marais) chided him for not recognizing music she'd played for him. Apparently he did not remember the band's more melodic side. I told him that they "did that" on every album. He said, "Well, *that* is what they should do more of!" While I do know that I am being spied on all the time, I would be surprised to hear that Ryan Clark and his compatriots in Demon Hunter had overheard that, but with *Storm The Gates Of Hell*, that is basically what the band has done. Instead of a token ballad here or there, the majority of the album allows for melodic singing along. There's still plenty of pummeling from the rhythm section, to be sure, but it's just a great melodic masterpiece. Check it out.

Grace and Peace,



ELEMENTS

- 04 METAL TRACKS** Virgin Black, Bloodgood, Johannes Jonsson's "Bullets from Sweden," Petra, Stryper, Kekal, Believer, Bride, more.
- 08 ROB ROCK** Chris Beck talks to one of metal's last golden voices.
- 12 VENI DOMINE** Jonathan Swank interviews Sweden's power metallers.
- 14 GALACTIC COWBOYS** Jeff McCormack talks to the entire gang (for the first time).
- 16 ALBUM REVIEWS** Twenty of 'em.
- 18 IMMORTAL SOULS** Chris Gatto goes deep.
- 21 COLUMNS** Steve Rowe and Pastor Bob.

Heaven's Metal Editorial Team:

Chris Beck, Bob Beeman, Jeff Collins, Mark Blair Glunt, Chris Gatto, Genifer Groff, Loyd Harp, Daniel Jesse, Johannes Jonsson, Mike Larson, Jeff McCormack, Trevor Ray, Steve Rowe, Jonathan Swank, Doug Van Pelt, Todd Walker

HmMagazine.com/heavensmetal/

1-year subscriptions (6 issues): \$9.99 (USA) | \$21.77 (Foreign)

Advertising/Editorial Info: dvanpelt@hmmag.com

512.989.7309 | 1660 CR 424, Taylor TX 76574

Copyright © 2007 Heaven's Metal (TM). All rights reserved.



Remastered and using the original gory cover art and an expanded booklet, Mortification's classic 1991 self-titled album has finally been re-issued in a limited edition digipak (1000 copies).

Available now.



soundmass

www.soundmass.com

METAL TRACKS

Hard-news-for-metal-heads



THIS FIRES EMBRACE

By **LOYD HARP**

Like so many metal fans, I was shocked when I heard about the horrible public murder of Dimebag Darrell (Pantera/Damageplan). I can't even imagine how shocking it would have been if I had been there. Aaron Benner, founder of This Fires Embrace, can tell us all about it.

Having grown up in central Ohio, Aaron learned his chops playing in a regionally popular Liquid6teen. Growing up in a Christian home, Aaron says, "I always believed in Jesus. I just chose not to acknowledge Him because it allowed me to do a lot of the things that I wanted to do, but knew I shouldn't."

It was at this time that Aaron attended the Damageplan concert, Dec. 8th, 2004. "That night completely changed me. I was about 15 feet off stage right when the gunman ran around me and onto the stage. Then, the gun came out and the nightmare began. I watched in disbelief as Dime was murdered right in front of me. I just couldn't believe that this was happening."

As if to prove that God can use any circumstance for good, Aaron describes how the event served

as a catalyst for his faith. "In the aftermath of the shootings, I did some serious soul searching. I re-evaluated how I was living my life, how precious life is and the time we're given to live it. More importantly, I understood how hopeless life is without Christ. That's when I made the decision to dedicate my life and the music I played to Him. I made some tough choices, like quitting Liquid6teen. My prayer was this simple, 'Lord, if you want me to play music for you, send me the players to make it happen.' Within 2 months, This Fires Embrace was formed. I still am blown away by how He has blessed me for being obedient to Him." They now approach their music as a universal language in which to "communicate what Jesus has done and what He can do for anyone that accepts Him."

And as if this incredible story weren't enough, This Fires Embrace really shred in the metal department, creating a sound where old and new schools of metal meet. They've been hitting the road hard too, and it doesn't appear the band will slow down in the near future.

Read more of this interview at hmmag.com/heavensmetal

News bullets

Jeff from **Kekal** reports: "Kekal have gone through some very tough times since last year, mostly due to the geographical factors, and we also have our own personal struggles that needed to be taken care of as first priorities. After so many times considering for possible options whether we should quit the band or put the band under eternal hiatus, I have decided to persevere and keep the passion alive by continue working on the new material for Kekal's next album, all by myself unfortunately, which I planned it to be released sometime in 2008. **Azhar Levi Sianturi** and **Leo Setiawan** are still official members, and we have decided to keep it as a trio, even though they couldn't contribute to this new material due to a lot of reasons. The new material is very dark, extremely isolated, sorrowful, emotional, and introspective in nature, but yet heavy. It also marks as the most explored music I've ever done so far, although it isn't as complex, progressive and abstract as *The Habit of Fire*."

Lots of activity at **Scott Stapp's** MySpace, including his very first video blog! He's got a new band and work is coming along nicely on the new album, which is due in 2008. You can also see a couple of behind the scenes videos – the writing of "You Will Soar," and the filming of "The Great Divide" music video. There are also plans for a feature-length documentary on Scott to be released along with the new album.

The talented power metal band **Theocracy** reports that the new album, *Mirror of Souls*, is now finally recorded. **Matt Smith**, the band's main composer and singer is extremely pleased with the way it sounds. You can listen to one of the upcoming tracks on the new album on myspace.com/theocracyband.

News from **Extol**: "As you may know, Extol has taken a break from activities for some time. For now it is impossible to determine when or even if the band will appear again. We want to thank you for being supportive, and want you to know that there's no hard feelings involved!! However, some of the guys have a new band going. Check it out at myspace.com/mantriofficial."

Classic thrash band **Believer** is back again working on a new album! Here is some exciting news from drummer **Joey Daub** (Believer, Fountain of Tears): "It's time for some more Believer info, folks! It's official: Kurt and I have just finished tracking drums and guitars for five new songs for pre-production. We are now back to focusing on writing as well as adding bass, vocals, etc. to the recorded tracks. Our goal with the new record is to give the hardcore fans the Believer that they know and love and also gain some new fans. We feel that so far we're meeting that goal."

Stryper is busy working with the recording of their new album. The track "My Love I'll Always Show" (rock version) will be added to the new record since it fits what the band is trying to do now musically. **Michael Sweet** says, "We begin laying down vocal tracks over the next few weeks. We're finished with all the tracking, other than vocals. We start mixing in October. We're covering the song 'Peace of Mind' by Boston and Tom Scholz (Boston guitarist) is joining us to play guitar on that song. The whole record is sounding incredible!"



Meet the Press



TODD WALKER

Age: 37

Fav metal albums of all time:

Dream Theater – *Images and Words*, Stryper – *Soldiers Under Command*, Tourniquet – *Stop the Bleeding*, Saint – *Times End*, Barren Cross – *Rock for the King*, Rob Rock – *Rage of Creation*, Galactic Cowboys – *s/t*, King's X – *Gretchen Goes to Nebraska*, Symphony X – *The Odyssey*, California Metal Compilation, Bloodgood – *Detonation*, Queensryche – *Operation: Mindcrime*, Disciple – *This Might Sting a Little*, Deliverance – *Weapons of Our Warfare*

Fav movie/TV:

Shawshank Redemption, *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*, *Lord of the Rings Trilogy*, *Grosse Pointe Blank*, *Better Off Dead*, *Hoosiers*, *The Highlander*, *Dumb and Dumber*, *Rounders*, *UHF*

Interesting fact:

Father of a test tube baby! How many people can say they have seen their child under a microscope at 5 cells old? (More proof to me that life begins at conception!) He has grown a little since then ... from 5 cells to 5 years. My other son is adopted – and was born on Easter Sunday.

Something goofy:

I am a Florida State grad (go 'noles!) I am such a fanatic that my children are forbidden from wearing orange and blue together. I think their first words were "yucky gators."



DANIEL JESSE

Age: 26

Fav metal albums of all time:

Cryptopsy – *None So Vile*, Opeth – *Still Life*, Suffocation – *Pierced from Within*, Morphia – *Fading Beauty*, Desire – *Loccus Horrendus*, Quo Vadis – *Defiant Imagination*

Fav movie/TV:

Ordet, *Gertrud* and *La Passion de Jeanne d'Arc* by Carl Th. Dreyer, *Persona* and *Saraband* by Ingmar Bergman, *Bleu and Krótki film o miłości* by Krzysztof Kieslowski, *Heaven and Der Krieger und die Kaiserin* by Tom Tykwer and of course, *The Adventures of Bob & Doug McKenzie: Strange Brew* by Rick Moranis and Dave Thomas

Interesting fact:

Finishing Master of Arts Degree in Philosophy focusing on Philosophy of Religion and Philosophical Theology.

Something goofy:

I am a Viking [of German and Swedish decent] ... marching off to war [am a pacifist] ... I've got no fear [Afraid of Heights].

Narnia's tune "In His Majesty's Service" from their brand new album *Decade of Confession* is now available on their myspace site. The tune is a slightly metalized cover of the original made by **Jerusalem**. myspace.com/narniaofficial

Grimmark, the new album by guitar shredder **Carl Johan Grimmark** (Narnia, Rob Rock) is now released on Rivel Records. The album got the rate 9 of 10 in Sweden Rock magazine, which is the leading metal magazine in Scandinavia. [myspace.com/grimmark]

Admonish will support Mortification on their gig in Bielefeld (near Dortmund) on the 7th November. admonish.org.

Majestic Vanguard reports that they now have a new singer in the band after the departure of **Peter Sigfridsson**, who had to leave because of lack of time and personal reasons. The new vocalist is mega-talented **Tommy Johansson** from **Rein Xeed**. **Samuel Fredén**, one of the original members has also decided to leave the band, due to lack of time. Samuel, however, plans to record keyboards on their next album, so he will still be working with the band but in a different role. The last gig with Samuel will take place later this year. The band wishes both Peter and Samuel all the best in the future. With the arrival of the new vocalist, the band has got new motivation and is now preparing and planning for their 2nd full-length album. majesticvanguard.net

Crimson Moonlight plans to record a new album. The album will probably be released in Spring 2008. crimsonmoonlight.com



Rivera Bomma is currently working on new material for their 3rd release tentatively titled, *Angels & Demons*. The sound will be heavier and darker. They are also auditioning drummers and bassists to record. It's rumored that they will have some known special guest musicians on some tracks, at least two "80's rock monsters" have agreed to record. If anyone has any suggestions on a talented drummer they can mail riverabomma@yahoo.com.

In **Mortification** news, the *Live Humanitarian* CD has been released. The DVD will be released early next year, delayed by upcoming tour costs and the fact that the live seven cameras film edit is still in progress. **Steve Rowe** asks, "Please pray for my continued health. My biggest concern right now is for my kidney function and eyesight. From now on I will be wearing glasses on stage, but that is OK, because it is all the better to see you with!" The re-issue of Mortification's '91 self-titled album has also been released, remastered, it is a special limited edition digipak release (1000 copies) with the front cover faithfully restored from the original "gory" artwork by **Jason Sherlock**.

Former KORN member **Brian "Head" Welch** has released the book, *Save Me from Myself: How I Found God, Quit Korn, Kicked Drugs, and Lived to Tell My Story*. In the book he tells us about his life in KORN, his drug abuse and how he got rid of it when he found God. headtochrist.com

John Schlitt, lead singer of **Petra**, announces the sampler release of his third solo project, as of yet untitled. A montage of songs, complete with commentary by Schlitt, is available for download on johnwschlitt.com. The project follows Schlitt's previous two solo albums, *Shake* and *Unfit for Swine*, as well as *Vertical Expressions*, the 2007 debut release by II Guys from Petra (Schlitt and Petra founder Bob Hartman).

Classic metallers **Bloodgood** just released the DVD and CD titled *Rock Theatre: Shakin' the World*. It's a repackaged re-release of the 1990 release *Shakin' The World*. See bloodgoodband.com for details.

METAL TRACKS

Page 6



MIND CONTROL

Just wanted to let you know that I've made two new purchases in the last few days thanks to HM and Heaven's Metal. First, the latest HM Podcast featured "Shake It Off" by Dizmas. I found this song to be one of the best examples of good-time rock I've heard in a long time. I listened to it several times before continuing the rest of the podcast. So I checked out some of their other songs and bought the album off iTunes. I'm loving it. Second, tonight I was reading the reviews of the latest Heaven's Metal (which just arrived yesterday). As I always do, I try to find songs from the albums reviewed to see if I would like 'em. I have a 7days track from an HM sampler CD from last year, and I liked that song, and I'm a big Dream Theater fan, so when I saw the comparison in the Darkwater review, I knew I had to check 'em out. Great stuff. So I just bought that album from iTunes, too. So, once again, HM comes through for me. I can't count the number of albums I've bought (and been happy with) over the last 18 years (13 of 'em as a subscriber) thanks to either your reviews or the sampler CDs. Please, keep up the great work!

—Brian Galloway, Spring, TX

Ed — Thanks, but ... frankly I'm worried about those CDs you bought during those five years of non-subscribing purchases.

HARD MUSIC NOT COOL?

Is there a difference in HM and Heavens Metal???? I got into Christian metal well after its prime, but like the old style bands like Rob Rock, Narnia, Wingdom, and Letter 7. I don't like the stuff that was predominantly in HM when I was a subscriber to the magazine a few years ago, as it was the newer "cool" hard music. I noticed a blog that said heavens metal was back so I thought I would check into it. I would love to be able to find out which bands in my personal genre have upfront Christian lyrics in them and not just "Christian friendly" lyrics. If I was a Christian back in the day and knew of your magazine I would surely have been a subscriber then. Yes I know...I am narrow minded when it comes to music, but I can't help what I like. I hate rap and no matter how much the dirtbag around the corner makes me listen to it at 3am I am still not going to like it either! Anyways, getting off track here...Let me know.

—Jason, via internet

Ed — There is absolutely no difference between HM and Heaven's Metal. We just put a different cover on each of them to fool the non-subscribers.

Hey, were you, by any chance, influencing our friend Brian Galloway when you subscribed to HM a few years ago? We're concerned about his CD collection and your possible negative influence.

CUA, CREED, URIAH HEEP?

Hey Doug, what do you think about the following albums: The Ken Hensley Story / Blood On The Highway — *When Too Many Dreams Come True*; Alter Bridge — *Blackbird*; and Rick Cua's new one, *Won't Fade Away*?

—Gene, Austin, TX

Ed — I have been getting into that special project by Ken Hensley and friends. He was in Uriah Heep, as you may know was the singer/keyboardist/multi-instrumentalist for Uriah Heep. This project is an autobiographical concept album about his rock and roll survival story from the 70s up to today. He enlists the help of some golden and leathery vocalists, like Jorn Lande, John Lawton, and Glenn Hughes. Without bringing home the resolution of his conversion to Christianity, it does spell out the fleeting vanity of fame and r&r excess. Rick Cua is another legendary artist turned Christian (he played with The Outlaws during their heyday), but his best solo albums were his first three *Koo'ah*, *No Mystery*, and *You're My Road*. *Won't Fade Away*, while he tips his hat to Hendrix in the worshipful and rocking tune, "For The Love Of My King (with a little "Manic Depression" riff), it's mostly ccm radio type middle-of-the-road rock. Mark Tremonti and the guys in Alter Bridge? They haven't gone on record as having converted to Christianity, and a few magazine interviews seem to indicate a hesitancy to be grouped in with the "Christian rock" genre, but liner notes thanking God and biblical phraseology in their lyrics make this second post-Creed release seem like there's some connection there. I heard they used their own money to buy out their contract from Wind-Up Records (this one's on Universal Republic). This could be what they're talking about when Myles Kennedy sings: "...as we outrun a life of agony / God how we ache to be free." Even if it's not founded in New Testament theology, I am still personally inspired by the lines in "Buried Alive," which describe a person wondering what they've become ("...another night soaked in my disgrace"), and later crying out: "Reach down tonight set me free / and I will follow." In "Break Me Down" we hear: "Forgiveness is calling." I'll let you decide, Gene. Musically, once again it's like a soulful Chris Cornell singing with Creed. I say check 'em all out.

[nothin' but] News bullets

Glass Hammer and the "You Asked For It Bundle:" *The Compilations*, previously only available on iTunes, features songs released from 1996 to 2004 on various compilation discs, but never on one CD. Due to numerous requests, the eight song special edition CD (with a surprise bonus track) will finally be released alongside their new CD, *Culture of Ascent*. Order at glasshammer.com.

Joshua Perahia will release a new collector's DVD in the winter of 2007. It will include footage of his classic album *Intense Defense* performed live in the studio, live footage from Stryper Expo 2001, live performances from The Salvation Army Benefit Concert, and other rare footage, interviews, photo albums, and all of the band's videos. Samples of the DVD can be found on YouTube.

Arizona-based metal band **F5** have recently entered the studio to record the follow-up to their 2005 debut, *A Drug For All Seasons*. "This looks to be a very musically invigorating record," says bassist **David Ellefson** (ex-Megadeth). "No doubt there will be hints of F5's past sound on the disc, but these new songs are definitely developing a much more progressive sound for the band." Due to the departure of original drummer Dave Small, Jimmy DeGrasso of Ministry has been enlisted for the session's drumming.

Versailles Records has announced the forthcoming release of Christian rockers **Liberty N' Justice**'s "greatest-hits" LP, due in late March 2008. Entitled *4-All: The Best of LNJ*, this collection includes the best from 2004's *Welcome to the Revolution*, 2006's *Soundtrack of a Soul*, and 2007's *Independence Day*. Plus, the collection includes four new tracks featuring Doug Pinnick (King's X), Steve Brown (Trixter, Stereo Fallout), Derrick LeFevre (Lillian Axe), **Larry Worley** (Fear Not) and Russell Arcara (Surgin, Prophet) written exclusively for the "best of" album.

In **Bride** news, it appears that **Troy Thompson** will not be moving to Italy after all. This means that they will begin writing for a new Bride CD right away. They just recorded a song for the new Liberty and Justice CD called "Author of the Flame." **Dale** says "Troy and I will be taking a different approach to the next Bride project. Even though we are thrilled with *Skin For Skin* our last CD, we feel that over production has stifled what we are all about. At this time Troy and I are putting together players for the project. We will announce soon who will be joining us on this next important release."

Virgin Black's next trilogy installment, *Requiem — Fortissimo*, releases on The End Records on February 19th. Early word is that the band "exhumes the death/doom vibe of early Paradise Lost and My Dying Bride albums ... by far the band's rawest and heaviest work to date." Says singer/keyboardist **Rowan London**: "I should feel a sense of dread offering up something so atypical for us to be interrogated and scrutinized. But the fearlessness that we inhabited while writing *Fortissimo* and the *Requiem* series survives to see its unveiling. An album not so much about death as the absence of life; it's damn heavy, but it's countenance is far more brutal than its sound could ever be. Long live the 'death choir.'" You can now hear the track "Silent" by visiting the label's MySpace page.

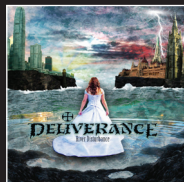
RETROACTIVE RECORDS



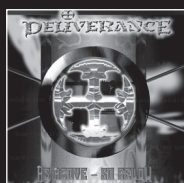
WHITECROSS – NINETEEN EIGHTY SEVEN (with 6 bonus tracks)
Complete Re-recording of original debut self-titled 1987 release featuring the bonus tracks "Love On The Line" and "Re:Animate" (all Rex Carroll guitar jam/solo) + 4 hidden out takes. Fans of Ratt, Motley Crue, and Stryper won't find anything more worthy of their money than this release! Originally released on Girder Records, this instant classic now finds new life with Retroactive Records.



ARMAGEDDON –THE MONEY MASK (Collector's Edition) (2 CD set)
Disc one contains the 1989 (originally on Regency Records) classic metal masterpiece, Money Mask album completely Remastered, plus the bonus track "Blazing Wasteland" from the legendary metal compilation, East Coast Metal (1988). Disc two contains 13 bonus tracks of demos and rarities when they were called Second Chance.



DELIVERANCE – RIVER DISTURBANCE (Collector's Edition)
The original 1994 release in its entirety, completely remastered with all new artwork. Features four high quality bonus tracks (1 rare & 3 previously unreleased). Melodic, dark, and absolutely brilliant progressive metal. Fans of HIM and Savior Machine will rejoice for an enhanced version of the original masterpiece.



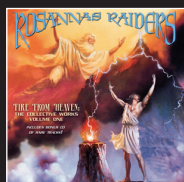
DELIVERANCE – AS ABOVE~SO BELOW
Few groups have ever blended epic thrash / speed metal with the elegance and beauty of progressive metal (later period Deliverance) with such devastating skill and brutality. Alternating so many moments of beauty with beastly moments of metallic fury and spine snapping riffs that would seem right at home on a Slayer, Believer, or early Deliverance album.



SARDONYX – MAJESTIC SERENITY / REBEL OF REASON
Remastered and reissued, this previously rare & crunchy thrash metal release now includes the band's original demo!
For fans of Testament & early Megadeth!



ULTIMATUM – INTO THE PIT
The masters of thrash metal are back!!! Into the Pit qualifies as a juggernaut of North American metal. Following the footsteps of fellow peers Exodus, Tourniquet, Vengeance Rising, Megadeth, Overkill, and Forbidden, expect fiery, blowtorch riffs and scorching solos, thundering bass, fast drumming and a wealth of Mastodonian riffery, the boys have clearly learned from their elders, and learned well!



ROSANNA'S RAIDERS – FIRE FROM HEAVEN: The Collective Works (Collector's Edition) 3 albums on 2 CDs. The 1987 release Calling Down Fire and the 1988 release Clothed In Fire (both originally on Pure Metal Records) in their entirety are both on disc 1. Disc 2 has the extremely collectible and previously impossible to find 1985 pro quality 10 song demo called We Are Raiders. Thoroughly remastered for brilliant sonic clarity. For fans of Vixen, Rez, Barnabas, and Heart.



TITANIC – WRECKAGE (THE BEST OF & THE REST OF)
Remastered tracks from the original versions of Maiden Voyage (1st album), Screaming In Silence (2nd album) and their latest Full Steam Ahead. As an added bonus, fans are treated to two rare tracks and two previously unreleased tracks all featuring Robert Sweet from Stryper. 17 total tracks.



MAIN LINE RIDERS – SHOT IN THE DARK
Anthemic hooks, cleverly mixing snarl and attitude, the band has no problems paying homage to their musical rabbis, AC/DC, Guns-n-Roses, and Skid Row, while appealing to fans of modern day bands Vains of Jenna, Buck Cherry, and The Showdown.

All releases available from
radrockers.com, cdbaby.com,
Northwestern Christian Stores,
amazon.com, girdermusic.com, Mardel
Christian Stores, christiandiscs.com
and your favorite online stores!

Distributed by
brutalplanet@gmail.com
retroactiverecords.net

ROB ROCK

Creation Rages in the Garden of Chaos

BY CHRIS BECK

CONSISTENCY. THIS WORD, WHEN USED IN RELATION TO MUSIC, OFTEN REFERS TO THE SIMILARITY OF A BAND'S STYLE FROM ALBUM TO ALBUM. FOR EXAMPLE, WHEN YOU PURCHASE AN AC/DC ALBUM, YOU KNOW EXACTLY WHAT YOU'RE GETTING, AS EACH ALBUM SOUNDS A LOT LIKE THEIR PREVIOUS ALBUMS. LIKEWISE, THE MUSIC OF ROB ROCK, EVEN DATING BACK TO HIS DAYS WITH IMPELLITTERI, HAS A MELODIC METAL QUALITY THAT IS ALWAYS RECOGNIZABLE. IN ROB'S CASE, HOWEVER, CONSISTENCY MEANS MUCH MORE THAN JUST THIS. WITH *GARDEN OF CHAOS*, HIS FOURTH SOLO ALBUM, ROB HAS ONCE AGAIN RELEASED AN ALBUM THAT IS MUSICALLY SUPERIOR TO THE MAJORITY OF MUSIC BEING RELEASED THESE DAYS. ARGUABLY, THIS IS TRUE WITH EACH ALBUM THAT ROB HAS WORKED ON. PERHAPS MOST IMPORTANTLY, DESPITE BEING PART OF A SCENE THAT SEEMS TO THRIVE ON SINGING ABOUT EVIL AND DEPRESSION, ROB'S LYRICS ARE UPLIFTING, AND IN MANY INSTANCES, OPENLY GIVE PRAISE AND THANKS TO OUR CREATOR. THIS IS ONCE AGAIN THE CASE WITH *GARDEN OF CHAOS*. CONSISTENCY INDEED.

Chris Beck: Garden of Chaos, the name of your new album, certainly appears to be a less controversial title than that of your last album, *Holy Hell*. What is the meaning of *Garden of Chaos*?

Rob Rock: *Garden of Chaos* is reflecting the current state of the world. We started out with the "Garden of Eden," but now it has evolved into the "Garden of Chaos!"

What was your goal in making *Garden of Chaos*?

My goal for *Garden of Chaos* was to continue on where *Holy Hell* left off—with strong songs, a fast pace and heavy riffs along with the melodic vocal lines. I did not want to make the exact same album, so we progressed forward with a larger variety of songs and different vocal ranges to set this CD apart from *Holy Hell*.

The main musicians that played on *Garden of Chaos* are Carl Johan Grimmark on guitars, Andreas Johansson on drums and Andreas Olsson on bass, all of whom are also in the band Namia. Besides playing some shows with Namia last year, how did this relationship come about? At this point, do you consider them to be permanent members of your band?

Yes, I consider them to be my band. I think the writing and production relationship between me, Roy Z and Carl Johan (CJ), and the band worked very well and I plan to continue on with this team. Namia and Rob Rock are both managed by MCM Music, so we originally connected that way.

Besides your signature metal sound, what should listeners expect to hear on the new album?

They will hear powerful and melodic hard rock/metal tracks and a couple of great ballads. They will also notice a wide variety of vocal ranges on the album. For instance, on the song "Metal Breed," I sing low and gritty, and on "Spirit in the Sky," I sing very high. "Only a Matter of Time" has a darker vibe to it. They will also hear the usual Rob Rock style with the title track, "Garden of Chaos," and "This Time is the Last Time."

What songs on *Garden of Chaos* have the most meaning to you and why?

The ballads have the most meaning, because they were written for my family. "Unconditional" was written for my wife and "Ode to Alexander" was written by my wife and me for my son. These songs are very personal.

Do you have any tour plans to support the new album? Any chances of a USA tour this time?

We are searching for the right touring situation right now. We are looking at February for Europe and March for South America. We'll know more about touring the USA after the album is released here on October 23.

Whether it be Warrior's *The Code of Life*, Tobias Sommet's *Avantasia* or other projects, as a Christian, how do you approach singing on an album that includes lyrics you didn't write? What if the lyrics are inconsistent with your beliefs?

Well, with Warrior, I co-wrote the lyrics, so I was able to infiltrate my Christian worldview and sing words I was comfortable with. On *Avantasia*, I'm really not too sure what the lyrics were about. I knew it was religious-themed, but I recorded my parts

very early on, before the album was completely written. I make sure that the albums do not contradict what I believe, that's for sure. If the lyrics are bad I won't do it. If they are okay, then I'm okay with it, because I want to reach people I normally cannot reach as a solo artist with the hope that new fans will find my solo recordings and hear my lyrics.

Have you ever turned down an opportunity to sing on an album because of the lyrical content?

Not really. I always tell them I want to write the lyrics and they are usually okay with that. People know where I stand, so I don't usually get requests that are outrageous, at least lyrically.

Do you keep in touch with Chris Impellitteri?

Yes, Chris and I are good friends, so we keep in touch from time to time. I try to keep in touch with people I've worked with, because I think relationships are more important than work.

After all these years, what keeps you motivated to keep making the music that you do?

The motivation is that I really enjoy singing, writing and recording.

You have an excellent voice for singing heavy metal that has held up well over time. When you first began your career, did you take any singing lessons or have any special training?

I took ten lessons in Los Angeles just before I went to Germany with the band Joshua to record *Intense Defense*. Those lessons were aimed at strengthening my pitch between vocal registers.

Do you do any training or techniques today to continue to push yourself and keep your voice in shape?

I still do vocal exercises as a 15 minute warm-up. Other than that, touring, writing songs and recording keeps me on the edge vocally.

There have been rumors for some time now that you will release a DVD. What is the status of this and what will the DVD contain if and when it comes out?

We had planned to record a DVD last year, but it has been postponed due to the label support being late to the table. We are looking for the next opportunity now to record a show so we can finally put one together for our fans.

Any last words for the readers of *Heaven's Metal*?

Thank you all for your support. Please check out the new album—you will not be disappointed. Other information is also available at robrock.com and myspace.com/robrock1. Also, start making requests for a Rob Rock concert whenever you can so we can bring the live show to you as soon as possible. God bless you all and God bless America!

HEAVEN'S
METAL



"Chris (Impellitteri) and I are good friends, so we keep in touch from time to time. I try to keep in touch with people I've worked with, because I think relationships are more important than work."



HELL DESTROYER CAGE

NOW AVAILABLE!

The intense new
offering from...



**YOUR MUSIC
EVERYWHERE**
DISTRIBUTION

Kingwood TX • 281-260-7777



"The Power Metal CD of the year..."
HEAVY Magazine (Germany)

www.cageheavymetal.com
www.myspace.com/cageheavymetal



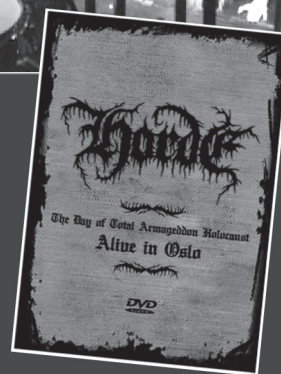
undark.net



*See Anonymous perform live in front of
a wild audience for the first and only time!*

DVD out now!

Buy it at: undark.net/horde



Fearscape

Scent of Divine Blood

Finally, after 3 years, the much anticipated second album from Australia's progressive black metal titans is here.

Featuring songs: Scent of Divine Blood, Abaddon Destroyer, Inheritance of Dust, Falls of Crimson Free, Terrible Majesty and Ex animus ad astrum

On Sale at www.undark.net/store



VENI DOMINE

is speaking in tongues

INTERVIEW BY JONATHAN SWANK

VENI DOMINE IS AN ANOMALY (A DEVIATION FROM THE NORM), FOR SURE. FOR ALMOST TWO DECADES —DESPITE MUCH FRUSTRATION AND HARDSHIP—THESE GUYS HAVE NOT ONLY BEEN BASTIONS OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH, BUT THEY HAVE REMAINED FAITHFUL TO MUSIC AS WELL. REFUSING TO BOW TO THE DEMANDS OF CONSUMERISM, VENI DOMINE HAVE QUIETLY—IN JUXTAPOSITION TO MAINSTREAM METAL—FORGED THEIR OWN PATH. AND WHILE THEY HAVE ENJOYED LITTLE COMMERCIAL SUCCESS—DESPITE FIVE GREAT ALBUMS—THEY ARE WELL-KNOWN AND RESPECTED IN UNDERGROUND METAL CIRCLES AROUND THE WORLD. WITH THEIR CONSTANT MUSICAL “PROGRESSION” ONE ALBUM TO THE NEXT, AND THEIR “KEEP-THE-TEMPO-DOWN” APPROACH, IT IS TEMPTING TO LABEL THEM PROGRESSIVE DOOM METAL. NEVERTHELESS, DESPITE THE ANONYMITY AND THE AMBIGUITY, THESE GUYS ARE UNDENIABLY ORIGINAL AND TRULY PROGRESSIVE. SEPTEMBER SAW THE RELEASE OF THEIR 6TH STUDIO ENDEAVOR CALLED *TONGUES*. LISTEN IN AS I DISCUSS THE NEW ALBUM, THE BAND’S STRUGGLES AND VICTORIES OVER THE PAST DECADE AND EVEN THE STATE OF CHRISTIANITY WITH VETERAN GUITARIST/SONGWRITER/PRODUCER TORBJÖRN WEINESJÖ (AKA TW2).

JS: I love how you guys really can’t be pigeon-holed into one genre. You have been labeled doom, progressive, even gothic. How would you characterize your sound these days?

TW2: You know, the styles don’t matter to me ... therefore, I have no idea how to label it. Seems the style categories change over the years. When we play doom festivals we are power metal, and when we play elsewhere we’re doom.

It seems to me, Veni Domine has always been about musical progression. Where do you want to push your sound now and what kind of impact, in general, are you trying to make on the metal world?

I’ve found that most metalheads find it a bit confusing not getting the same over and over. For good and bad, I simply find it hard to not move forward. I take pride in moving forward, finding new solutions, evolving, trying to create something

never before heard. I get bored easily with music that is repetitive from album to album, not to mention genres that are simply about recycling. I don’t mean to put these guys down—they can do whatever and I respect that—but that’s not what Veni Domine is about. You know, if I can get some people listening to Veni Domine ... see life or things from another perspective ... I think we’re a success. We need to constantly evaluate our situation and position in life. It’s so easy to let the surroundings decide where we should stand or what to think; this goes for life in general, I would say.

Congratulations on the release of yet another fantastic album. How do you feel *Tongues* differs musically from prior releases? Is it concept-oriented or song-based?

Thanks a lot. This is the first time—I think since *Material Sanctuary*—that I’m really

“We should lead and break new boundaries; we should be in the forefront. Ego is our enemy and we need to learn how to base our living on values taught in the Bible—not from a preacher’s doctrines, but from the Bible.”

—Torbjörn Weinesjö

pleased with the overall result. I think we found a good thread throughout the CD—sound-wise and style-wise. It is song-based and a little bit more intense—slightly upbeat compared to our last release. For the first time since *Material* as well, we had a healthy working environment (no record deal issues and so forth).

It seems the heavy guitars—especially the solos—have really come to the forefront on the new album. I hear a lot of *Fall Babylon Fall* type shred in these songs.

You might be right on that ... haven’t really thought about that. When you produce yourself, sometimes you just get inspired and ignore the fact that you might not have time expanding on your own area (guitar playing in this case); instead of editing vocals or whatever, you put some extra minutes on the solo work. To be honest, it would be interesting to just focus on the guitars on the next recording ... ha, ha, ha ... like that will happen? Even though I love to play the guitar, the guitar probably gets the least attention during production. It would be fun working with a producer again ... letting me focus on my guitars.

“Bless My Pain” is simply an awe-inspiring song, both musically and vocally/lyrically. What inspired the writing, both stylistically and lyrically?

It’s the last song I wrote for the CD. It actually came in after we started the recordings, along with “October”—we cancelled one song and needed two more. We wanted to do a slow ballad thing ... that was our aim anyway. We used a really minimalist approach—no keys here—just a clean, electric guitar. I have to say that my US Stallings Customshop guitar worked fantastic on these sessions ... sounds simply clean and beautiful. (Being a Swede) ... it’s always difficult to express exact emotions or feelings in English. I really wanted to express the true nature of how God keeps us inside His embrace even though we feel left behind. If we can enjoy the struggles and the pains that come at times—seeing the big picture—we could stay in harmony with whatever happens. Also, the melody and the part after the solo was a “spur of the moment” thing for Fredrik ... I did not have an exact vocal line there, so we tried some stuff and Fredrik just nailed it perfectly. When you are in a band for such a long time, you know each other pretty well. Sometimes, you have a feeling (like it’s sent from God) that something will happen given the right surroundings ... and it does. God is amazing.

Can you tell me a bit about the epic title track “Tongues?”

You know, when I first started writing that track I felt like ... well, crap ... to the bin it goes. But, it grew

on me. I felt like doing a real slow tune—kinda naked sounding—to give Fredrik’s timbre space. Also, I wanted to provoke a bit lyrically. I wanted the ending really slow. You might think it’s easier than playing fast, but you know, you really need to hang on to the notes and hit the notes on time. Lyrically, it’s about losing yourself in the grace of God and just riding the wind of the Holy Spirit. If you’ve been there, you know what I’m talking about. If you haven’t been there you have a lot to experience.

Your lyrics over the years have evolved from the Scripture-based style on *Fall Babylon Fall* to the introspective/open-ended variety on *23:59*. What is one of the chief messages that you are trying to convey through the lyrics this time around?

I tried to focus a bit more on the positive side. During the introspective days, I was very depressed with the situation of Veni Domine. I really tried to be as open as I could out of respect for the listener. But, when changes come—I mean you can’t dwell in the past—I was set free from bitterness. I feel sad when listening to “Christian” bands who express so much grief and pain, and it never seems to end. Grief and pain want us to feed on them, but it’s such a negative thing, spiraling us right down to Hell. I wanted to bring some hope without judgment and of course, some apocalyptic stuff ... simply intriguing.

Fredrik has one of the most powerful and distinctive voices in the metal world. I understand that he had significant problems with his voice several years ago—one factor that resulted in the delay of the release of your 4th album. I really respect how you guys stuck with him during his struggle when many bands might have been tempted to move on with another singer. At this time, has he fully recovered?

Fredrik’s vocal condition as of today is ... he’s better than in many, many years. I’m impressed by the fact that he brought himself through this. Looking back, I don’t understand how I put up with it. My life was on hold as well. Of course, I briefly thought of getting a healthy singer in, but we would have rather killed the band than start anew with another singer. To me, Veni Domine is Thomas, Fredrik and me.

You guys, for whatever reason, have never enjoyed huge media exposure, yet you have been one of the most durable metal bands from the late 80’s. Does that bother/disappoint you in any way?

Of course, life as a band is easier when you get exposure, but this is how the business works. If you are not interesting enough for the masses, you don’t get the coverage. We never wanted anyone to like us and we always went our own way doing what

we burned for. Now I’m one of those guys that likes a lot of music, so I could have chosen another style, but chose to do this. I think Veni Domine are where we should be. It’s our path to walk. But sure, I have felt disappointment from time to time. You have to get through those times and come out alive on the other side.

Your music has always had an apocalyptic “gloom and doom” nature to it, yet it has always offered hope and encouragement at the same time. What is your view of the current state of Christianity in our world and what do you think Christ would say to believers should He return tomorrow?

I’m not sure what Christ would say. I think He would say, “Here I am, follow me.” We Christians have been sleeping through the new-age era, missing opportunities of massive proportions, I would say. As we thought the world was negative to spiritual matters, “they” were actually starving. It’s frustrating to see how we follow the masses and try to adopt our way of believing to suit the masses. We should lead and break new boundaries; we should be in the forefront. Ego is our enemy and we need to learn how to base our living on values taught in the Bible—not from a preacher’s doctrines, but from the Bible.

Have you ever been attacked or persecuted by the Norwegian Satanic black metal movement?

No, never. We had some clashes in Swedish media with Swedish black metal ... interesting meetings. Well, of course, we have met Satanic bands and I have no real problem with that ... the serious ones are incredibly focused and well-behaved. I respect them and we all should, but I don’t share their choices. I think it’s unfortunate that they found Satan to be a better leader than God. One would think that a message of love and mercy would override a message of selfishness and death.

Just out of curiosity, how did you get the “TW2” nickname?

Well, I go by many names. Back in school I was TW. Thomas, my brother, has the same initials. Since he’s older, I guess TW2 is suitable.

Thanks, Torb, for your time. Here’s hoping you guys are around for another 20 years!

Pleasure was all mine. If I’m alive and Jesus has not returned in 20 years, I’ll be around doing music for sure. If it’s with Veni Domine, God only knows.

**HEAVENS
GATE**



GALACTIC COWBOYS

Where are they now?

INTERVIEW BY JEFF MCCORMACK

AFTER THEIR SUCCESSFUL 2000 LAUNCH INTO THE OUTER REALMS OF SPACE, TO DISAPPEAR AND RETIRE TO THEIR RANCH ON MARS, I HEARD THE BUZZ THAT THE INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS HAD INDEED RETURNED FROM TRAVELING PAST THE RED SUN AND MADE IT THROUGH THE ENTIRE SEA OF TRANQUILITY TO SETTLE IN THE LOWER PARTS OF THE US. SO I SOUGHT OUT TO FACE THE STRUGGLE AND OVERCOME THE STRESS OF MAKING CONTACT WITH THE EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL SPACEMEN OF THIS ONCE GREAT BAND. NOW, WHILE I'M NOT AMUSED BY THE MINOR DIFFICULTY I HAD IN REACHING THEM IN THIS LIFE, I WAS BOUND AND DETERMINED BY MY YOUNG MAN'S DREAM TO PUSH FORWARD, AND FINALLY GET TO ASK THEM "WHERE ARE YOU NOW?" UNFORTUNATELY, I NEVER DID GET A CHANCE TO ASK ABOUT MRS. LESLIE, BUT FEAR NOT, I COVERED OTHER TERRITORY OF INTEREST FOR YOUR IDLE MINDS. TO SOME OF MY QUESTIONS, THEY HAD NOTHING TO SAY, BUT AT THE END OF THE DAY I DID GET THEM TO SPEAK TO ME ABOUT OTHER ISSUES. I WON'T PRINT THE RESPONSES THAT YOU'D NEVER UNDERSTAND, BUT I HOPE THAT YOU CAN ALL BREAKTHROUGH THE REST THAT WE PRINT HERE, AND JUST LIKE ME, GRASP A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE SHAPE OF THINGS NOW, AND HOW MUSICALLY IT'S NOT OVER FOR SOME OF THEM INDIVIDUALLY. SO THE FUTURE MAY HOLD BRIGHT HORIZONS FOR THEM IN A DIFFERENT WAY THAN THAT WHICH THEY HAD WITH THE GALACTIC COWBOYS, AND THAT IS WHAT I SET OUT TO DISCOVER. SO SIT BACK IN A LONELY ROOM, GRAB A BUCKET OF CHICKEN, AND TRY TO INTERNALIZE THE CURRENT LIFE AND TIMES OF A BAND WHO WAS ANYTHING BUT ORDINARY, AND WHO MADE MUSIC THAT WAS EASY TO LOVE. FOR ME, I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT TOMORROW MAY BRING FROM THESE FOUR TALENTED MUSICIANS. SPACE IN YOUR FACE!

I was able to catch up with all five members related to the band: Ben Huggins (voice), Monty Colvin (bass), Alan Doss (drums), Wally Farkas (guitars) and original guitarist Dane Sonnier (recorded on the first two albums).

JM: So, start us off by going back and telling us about the reasons behind the timing of the disbanding in 2000.

Monty: Well, we knew as we were recording "Let It Go" in 2000 that it was going to be the last one, hence the title. We just all agreed that it was going to be the last one, and we'd just go on from there. We'd been together, the core of me and Ben, had been doing it for like ten years, and at least from me, it was just a lot of frustration of never really getting to where we wanted. Plus, towards the end it was really hard to keep the thing going financially, plus the label was backing out of things, and it got real discouraging. It just seemed like after ten years, it was time for us to move on and try other things.

Wally: The band had been around for many years, and everything was great, but we were tired, and wanted a break and just wanted to see what else was happening.

Let me get the obvious question out of the way. Has there been any discussion about a reunion of any kind?

Monty: Well, I get asked about it all the time, and the four of us have talked about doing something, but I am in Missouri and they are down in Houston. I talked to Ben this past summer, and I stay in touch with Wally, and I think we'd really enjoy doing something again someday, so who knows.

Ben: It is hard, because everybody is doing different things, and motivations have changed. I guess I am still filled with nostalgia for what we did, and I can't imagine anything better than that. I have hopes we'll do it again, I enjoyed it and

miss it, but you never know.

Dane: I had a great time, and would love to get out there and thrash it out again. I think it would be doable if it was planned correctly, even if for just a couple of shows. It would be hard, but it could be done if everyone wanted it. I would be interested in being a part, and we should do it as a five piece with both Wally and I. It would be great.

Without wasting words, let's get on to the subject at hand, where have you been? Let's start with Monty.

Monty: Well, I started the Crunchy thing eight or nine years ago. I put out the first Crunchy album (2001's *All Day Sucker*) on another label that went bankrupt. The next album was *Clown School Dropout* (2003), which I put out on my own. Then I've worked the past four years on this new one (2007's *Loserville*), and I do all of the instruments myself except for the drums, and they're just purely solo albums. They have gotten heavier with each release, and the newest is probably the best stuff I have done so far. I still do my art, which has been used on various albums and elsewhere.

Anything else you'd like to say?

Monty: You can find out about all my releases, my current happenings and my art at MontyColvin.com.

OK, so where have you been for the past seven years, Ben?

Ben: Well, for the first three years I was just working and paying bills, and ignoring the musical side of life (laughter). Then Len Sonnier, our original guitarist Dane's brother, met us at a Dream Theater show when they came through in 2002, and they wanted us to come on stage and sing back ups on "Take the Time."

So, I called the guys and said let's do it. So we went over in the afternoon, sat around during sound check, and we did the song with them that night. So it was me and Wally and Alan and Dane, and it was just a rush to be back on stage again. After that, it was like "Wow! Just like old times." So I started getting the hankering to do something again.

So Len and I decided to get together and do some writing. We both had songs we were working on, so we threw them together and did a show a couple months later. We needed a name, and I threw out Gristle, and it stuck. So we're more or less a band, and have played out a handful of times each year for the past four years or so. We have about ten songs recorded, and Alan (Doss) is mixing them. But it is just slow going, because it is hard when everyone has families and everything; it is just hard when music is no longer your primary focus, to follow through with the little inklings that you have to be back on stage or record again. It is hard to get everyone's schedule to overlap enough to practice and put on a good show. Back in the days with Galactic Cowboys, when we started out, we were

rehearsing like it was a job, for hours a day, for, like five days a week.

For now, we play out occasionally, and you can hear some stuff at myspace.com/gristlemusic

It is just hard to do that when it is not your primary focus any longer, and you are trying to pay bills and own things like houses and cars (laughter). We have no Mr. Moneybags, and no one has walked up and offered to financially back your next project, and here is a bunch of money (laughter). Maybe someone will read this go, "I'm going to give those guys some money" (laughter).

I can relate, as I play in a band, and it is not our primary focus, and it is really hard to get five guys to overlap in schedules to just practice regularly.

Ben: The biggest problem is with my job. I work at night for a theatrical company, and so when there is a show running, every night I am there. It is hard, because most of the others have daytime jobs, and their time is usually at night, so I am the odd man out. It just gets hard with the struggles, so it eventually never happens. It goes through spurts, I get all hyped up, and say I'm not going to back down this time, we're going to do it; that lasts a while, then goes away (laughter).

It is so hard to sustain as one person too. I am all into band dynamics. I never felt a song of mine was finished until everybody else had the chance to get their hands on it. If I brought a song in, and everyone liked it and we decided to do it as is...that didn't hardly ever happen. Someone would suggest adding this, or doing something here, and then it became a band thing, instead of a me thing, and I just thrived on that; that was the way I felt complete musically and creatively. There is still some insecurity about what I do, so until I get that approval from the rest of the guys, then it becomes a different thing, a group effort. So I miss that. It is a similar thing with Len, but it is just the two of us for the most part.

Okay, let's move on to Wally – where you been?

Wally: Before I was in the band, I was on the business side of the music business, working for a large national distributor, so I went back to work there after the band ended. That company went under in 2003, so I started my own distribution company, doing CD sales to brick and mortar businesses. With the internet, which is basically taking over, the way things worked in the music industry as little as five years ago, just isn't working anymore. Now it is turning to downloads, and so many people bypass the brick and mortar businesses. So I sold my interest in the company and started my own company called Molken Music (molkenmusic.com), and do distribution direct to consumer through CDs and downloads, direct from a web site.

Playing wise, I have done a few gigs anonymously playing guitar on some rap records, some

independent, some major label. I have a side project with Ty Tabor (King's X) called Xenophobe, and we put out an album last year, and we just put out a new one last month called *2.0: Electrolux*. I spent the entire summer of this year in L.A. with Doug Pinnick working on his new solo album for Magna Carta Records, called *Strum Some Up* to be released Nov. 20th. I co-produced it and played some of the guitars. So, I have been busy in the music industry since the band ended, but more so behind the scenes. As far as playing, I now feel like this year I have been pulled out of retirement. I've been writing and demoing songs, and will start a solo project that I have been threatening for years. You can keep up with me on myspace.com/wallyfarkas.

And how about you, Alan?

Alan: Well, I have been staying busy playing music, some recording and producing. Nothing that is majorly out there. Recently I have been working on doing a country thing, playing bass in it. We're in the beginning of the recording stage, and then we'll shop it. I have a lot of roots growing up with country music, so I am pursuing this. I also play in a cover band five nights a week for the money, and other projects kind of work around that. But I am playing music steadily. Not much else to report, you can keep track of some of his happenings through myspace.com/alandoss.

And lastly, let us move on to the he who has been gone the longest. Dane Sonnier, where have you been for the past TWELVE years? (laughter)

Dane: Well, when I left the Cowboys, I was a chef, so I immediately fell into writing songs and performing songs with my brother (Len, formerly of Atomic Opera), and he and I were on an acoustic duo for about the first year. After a while we got a band together, and did a demo for Capitol, and they rejected it. A while later we did one for Atlantic, and they rejected it as well, so a few years later we put out a CD ourselves. We recently did a four song EP, and that has been about it. We've played shows opening for everyone from the Marshall Tucker Band to the Arc Angels. We've done a lot of opening slots and just playing everywhere regionally.

You can find out more about Dane and hear the Sonnier Brother band at sonnierbrothersband.com

There was other talk about the future, the idea of releasing a CD of demo and un-issued material, etc. With all of the guys devoting time to so many other issues, the possibilities of anything from the Cowboy's camp will surely depend on the interest of the fans. To show support and let the guys know they still have fans, be sure to go to galacticcowboys.com and show the love in the forum.



Read more at hmmag.com/heavensmetal [Photos from "Evil Twin" video shoot]

ALBUM REVIEWS



ULTIMATUM

SYMPHONIC EXTREMITIES
& THE MECHANICS OF
PERILOUS TIMES

If Udo Dirkschneider and Dave Mustaine "mixed it up" with Overkill and Anthrax in a mosh pit beneath the bloody cross of Christ, I have no doubt that the end result would sound something like Ultimatum! If that description doesn't quicken your pulse, then you may want to steer clear of these lavishly remastered/repackaged re-releases—replete with bonus demo and live tracks. Scott Waters' "extreme" vocal gyrations are noteworthy on the debut's more varied mix of metal, but the "fast times" of *Mechanics* hard-hitting thrash are more "perilous." If, after all that, you are still dead, check out the live track at the end of *Symphonic* where "Blink" transforms into Maiden's "Wrathchild." Better grab these before they are "gone (blink) ... vanished in thin air."

[Retroactive] Jonathan Swank



NARNIA

A DECADE OF CONFESSION
Narnia takes its listeners on a history lesson. The songs that comprise this album are taken from their past—minus

one new song—which shows where the band is headed. It is not quite a "best-of," yet for an added bonus, there is a collection of rare songs that appear, so that you do not have to hunt them down yourself. Not exactly for a new Narnia fan, but definitely for fans of Narnia. [MCM] Daniel Jesse



IMMORTAL SOULS WINTEREICH

Immortal Souls return with a vengeance! Laying down 4 chapters of their unique winter metal, they set a new standard for melodic death metal. Everything that a fan of this genre could want is found here. My only qualm is that the clean vocals are not the best, and that in order to continue in this style, they need someone else to perform these. Other than that, this is a great album for fans! [Facedown] Daniel Jesse



SARDONYX

MAJESTIC SERENITY

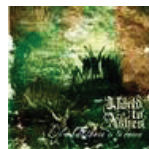
Oh man, it is great to see these songs back in circulation! One of the best independently released "ministry" metal CDs ever, it has been remastered/reissued with the excellent 4-song *Rebel of Reason* demo. Tom Denlinger's eccentric, yet incredibly charismatic and convicting vocal onslaught combined with a bass-thick, mid-tempo crunch to create an unusual mix of "classic metal-infused," progressively doomy thrash metal. Moreover, with Scripture references galore, the lyrics were—and remain today—a veritable Bible study. Sure, there were a few songs here that just didn't work, but how can you forget songs like the confrontational "Puppet of Beauty," the scathing "Voice of the Prodigal," the apologetic "Holy Avenger," the exhortational "Call Upon the Master" and, of course, the monumental "Corridor to Light?" Denlinger, who now sings in a worship band for his Lightshine Ministries, was/and remains all about "ministry," and this collection of songs perfectly embodies the spirit of "metal made for the purpose of ministry."

[Retroactive] Jonathan Swank



VENI DOMINE TONGUES

Veni Domine, with this album, continues to blend a kind of electronic music with their power metal roots. The electronic influence is not as prevalent as on the last release, yet it is still around. The real stand-out is the epic "Tongues," which closes the CD with a 16-minute opus fusing piano, heavy guitar and spoken word into one piece. This whole disc is on par with *Fall Babylon Fall*. [MCM] Daniel Jesse



WORLD TO ASHES

OF WHAT THERE IS TO COME
Right out of the cage, *Of What There is to Come* hits us with some Gothenburg-style melodic death metal,

even though the band hails from Southern Germany. The great production found on this release allows the listener to fully enjoy

the experience—feeling every note. There is enough new school death/NWOAHM influence to please even some non-traditional death metal listeners. One of the greatest aspects of this release is how bold the lyrics are in representing the band's faith; they clearly point to their love of the Savior, yet don't come off as preachy. Add this release to the Immortal Souls, Pantokrator, In Flames, Soilwork section of your CD collection.

[Open Grave] Chris Gatto



X-TERRA

X-NIHILO

I remember owning some of X-Terra's early stuff, back into the days of the 80's. Well, as a follow up to their 2003 release

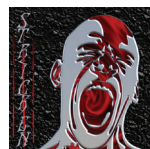
Wolves, we now have *X-Nihilo*. Musically, they are all-out classic rock. Production is fair, but very raw feeling in places. The potential is here for a great hard rocking release, but the songs come across too loudly as a self-produced independent release. I think with a little more studio time, additional production work, a louder mix and EQ of the guitars and drums, the power and energy buried here would take your head off. [Independent] Jeff McCormack



ROB ROCK

GARDEN OF CHAOS

Rob Rock continues to utilize and put at the fore his vocal talent. Backed by an all-star cast of musicians, this album cannot disappoint! In this, you get what you are looking for: fast-paced power metal with blazing solos mixed with a very melodic voice. There are some slow songs/moments on this disc, but they compliment the rest very well. For fans of power metal, and even those that are not! [AFM] Daniel Jesse



STRICKEN

S/T

These guys tear it up, big time! What's this sound like? Krush met Oil while Rob Zombie was listening to Pearl Jam play Jesus Rock. Seriously, these guys lay down a groove-rich riff that will have your head bobbin' and foot tappin' like

Surf this: roxxproductions.com, michaeldrive.com, ulterium-records.com, kidbludo.com, montycolvin.com, angelfire.com/band/vc/6way.html, redstaterrecords.com

a “right-smart” seizure. Dave Meriwether’s (ex-Krush) voice is primo—tough, yet very clear. The guitars, bass and drums mesh perfectly—just super tight—like a well-oiled machine and the mixing quality is so clean it makes ya wanna spit. Credible, Christ-centric hard rock/heavy metal doesn’t get much better, folks and the message is loud and clear: believe and repent or be “stricken.” [Roxx Productions] Jonathan Swank



MICHAEL D.R.I.V.E.

THE ACOUSTIC COLLECTION
Michael Drive (aka Mike Lee of Barren Cross) lays down one slick piece of production with this new acoustic

project. I still own a copy of his 1993 *Studio A* acoustic release, so I was excited to get my hands on this new one. For those non-metal times, you’ll enjoy the passion and power delivered both musically and vocally as only Michael can on these twelve tracks. Also included is a bonus track of Mike performing live with the full band Fastdrive. [Independent] Jeff McCormack



MICHAEL D.R.I.V.E.

FASTDRIVE LIVE IN PARIS

During his time in France, Michael Drive played in the group Fastdrive. This DVD features six rocking tracks that were recorded live on film in front of a studio audience and was part of a televised satellite broadcast that reached a large part of Europe. With great quality in both sound and picture, this tight band shines through with powerful tracks of modern hard rock. See samples of this great show on his website. [Independent] Jeff McCormack



IVORY MOON

HUMAN NATURE

Here is a relatively new symphonic/progressive metal band from Italy that has much going for them: dual male and female lead vocalists (both melodic); twin-guitar attacks; a wonderful keyboard player and a solid rhythm section. The sounds are heavy and no doubt, symphonic—taking root in the

power metal genre (rather than goth or black metal)—yet not overly orchestrated (like Epica or Nightwish). In fact, there is some “catchiness” here, and a fair amount of variety. While Cecilia Serra possesses a graceful voice—operatic and traditional—Alessandro Manicone’s tone is a bit “soft” sounding for metal and his English is heavily accented on most songs. Lyrically, only some of the songs (“Golgota”) deal directly with Biblical themes, but Christians will have much to ponder here. While not quite as grandiose and “A-caliber” as the new Epica and Nightwish releases, these songs are well-composed, very melodic and more accessible. [Ulterium] Jonathan Swank



KID BLUDO

UP AND AWAY

If you’re like me, the first question was, ‘what does Kid Bludo mean?’ The second question came when I saw the animated superhero character on the cover. Well, Kid Bludo is a superhero destined to save the world through the joys of 80s-inspired anthemic rock. It’s a cheesy concept for sure, but if you can get past that, there are a few noteworthy things about this release. The musicianship is actually pretty good, if a bit dated, and strange. The band is going for a sonically updated version of 80s progressive rock. At times it works, at others it’s a little on the cheesy side. However, don’t write them off completely. There is some definite talent here to be on the lookout for. But for now, *Up and Away* is for the hardcore 80s prog rock collector. [Obey Records] Loyd Harp



CRUNCHY

LOSERVILLE

Crunchy is back with their 3rd release, and with each one continue to grow better. For those of you unaware, Crunchy is headed up by Monty Colvin of Galactic Cowboys fame. Overall, this release has a heavier crunch than previous releases, while still maintaining a very fun and quirky, almost pop punkish feel to it. There are many aspects of this release that cause me to flash back to the Cowboys days, yet it still has an originality to it that makes it stand on its own. It is pure fun, chunky, punky, guitar-driven rock and roll. [GasFist] Jeff McCormack



VARIOUS ARTISTS

6-WAY SIN

DECOMPENSATION SPLIT

For those lamenting the lack of true grindcore in the Christian scene, cry no more. This ear-splitting volume features 82 tracks from 6 bands, who contribute a minimum of 10 songs or more each. Included are Ecuador’s Flactorphia, American bands Demonic Dismemberment and Eternal Mystery, Germany’s Vomitous Discharge and Australia’s Engravor and Vomitorial Corpulence (the longest running Christian grindcore band). Song lengths range from 4 seconds (Vomitous Discharge) to 3:26 (Flactorphia), and while they are primarily of the gore/grind variety, at least musically speaking, there is certainly a greater deal of variety than one might expect on an all-grind compilation. This is a great introduction to the burgeoning, if still infantile, Christian grind scene. This is not for the faint of heart, neither musically nor lyrically. However, if you are familiar with the secular grindcore scene, these bands and this release are clearly shining the light in a very dark place. [Vomit Bucket] Loyd Harp



MORBID SACRIFICE

SEVERED DEATH

From the excellent metallic band logo to the album art depicting the Czech monastery on which the decorations are made of human bones from deceased parishioners, you get an immediate glimpse into what’s to come from this release—old-school death metal! Morbid Sacrifice are here to remedy one’s need for blast beats and bass-driven thrash attacks; there are even a few power metal sections here to complement the death genre. *Severed Death* even tackles some of the common lyrical stances of secular death metal bands in tracks like “Humping the Dead,” where vocalist/bassist Chris Auman growls, “using Satan as a scare tactic/humping the dead/too weak to turn to the truth.” The production on this disc is almost perfect, with the old school lo-fi death metal feel, yet you can hear every instrument clearly in the mix. Overall, a very solid release from this relatively unknown band. Highly recommended for fans of 80’s death metal bands like Napalm Death (post-grindcore era), Cannibal Corpse, Death, Obituary, Pestilence, etc. [Red State Records] Loyd Harp



IMMORTAL SOULS

A New Ice Age Cometh

INTERVIEW BY CHRIS GATTO

WITH THE ABUNDANCE OF METAL BANDS COMING OUT OF THE SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES OVER THE YEARS, ONE HAS TO WONDER IF IT IS THE COLD WINTER NIGHTS THAT CAUSE SO MANY TO RISE UP WITH GUITAR IN HAND AND RAGE—RAGE AGAINST THE NIGHT! IF SO, THEN GOD BLESS THOSE SNOW-DRIVEN NIGHTS! IMMORTAL SOULS ARE NATIVES OF FINLAND. THEY HAVE BEEN HONING THEIR CRAFT FOR YEARS, AND THOUGH MANY COMPARE THEIR MUSIC TO THE GOTHENBURG DEATH METAL SOUND, THE QUALITY OF THEIR MUSIC SETS THEM APART FROM THEIR PEERS IN A BIG WAY. LISTEN IN AS WE SPEAK WITH AKI SARKIOJA, LEAD SINGER AND BASSIST OF IMMORTAL SOULS, THE MASTERS OF WINTER METAL.

CG: I'm curious who influences you musically. I've been following Immortal Souls' music for some time and though you live up to your "Scandinavian death metal" name, I notice a strong power metal structure and even thrash metal influence in the music. Are the band members influenced by these styles as well as death metal?

AS: Actually, we don't listen to new death metal that much. I think most of our influences are from the 80's heavy metal and 90's death metal—music we lived by when starting the band. As the melodic metal scene is now so crowded (you should invent a new, better way to play guitar before getting any respect) I am glad we have a solid history and three albums out already. I listen to very different types of music rather than just metal. I always love the artists who do their thing and not compromise, like Tom Waits. He is an ARTIST in my book.

Who came up with the "winter metal" motif?

I think that was something that came up when we were at Fear Dark, our former label.

I like it. It separates the band from the more common "Viking metal" approach of bands like Amon Amarth.

I love the concept of winter metal as it describes the thing we do. There is nothing "Viking" about us, but winter is near to our hearts. Chilling melodies and fast riffing with allegorical winter related lyrics is just what I love to do.

How much does the band tour and whom do they tour with?

We have done mostly mid-European tours; there has been lot of interest for us. There has been lot of great bands that we have been touring with. I think one of the greatest moments was in Switzerland when we supported Once Dead ... it was great to see those guys.

In the US, it seems that extreme metal bands from Finland, Sweden, and Norway are becoming extremely popular with metalheads here. Does Immortal Souls have any special plans for conquering our shores?

We have lot of plans, and I really hope it will happen this time. We just have to see how the new album is received over there and after that make our conclusions.

I have a good feeling about this, but let's see what will happen. We have to see if anyone remembers us in the US. If signals are what I expect them to be, we will tour the US in some scale.

What part of the world is your biggest audience in?

In the Netherlands and Germany we have a lot of people following our doings. The US is a huge market with masses of metal people. We have lots of fans there also.

What part does faith have to do with your music and does that cause conflict with bands you play with or your audience?

My personal faith is a big part of me, and as I write the lyrics with a huge personal touch, it's always part of my lyrics—allegoric and challenging—rather than annoyingly blatant. I myself hate bad lyrics and too preachy an attitude, no matter what the lyrics (are) about. There is lot of bad poetry in the market; lyrics should always challenge people to think. No one can tell another human being how they should be. We are in no position to do that. Also, a blatant attitude will close minds even if the subject is very important. As far as conflicts, we have never seen anything that I would call a conflict.

How do the band members make their living?

We all have our day jobs, and the band is our hobby. It has always been like this, and if it gets to feel like work and not fun anymore, then some of the energy is surely lost. I think we would not be doing this if we would have to do it only for money or just because we have to. Then, I think the point would be lost.

Why the move from one small record label to another (Fear Dark to Dark Balance)? Why not seek a larger metal label to work with?

Here we were in a situation that was not planned. Fear Dark changed their release policy, and we were left hanging with a new album without any timetable for releasing it. The album was already delayed for 6 months at least, and we needed to get it out as soon as possible. Then we came across the chance to release it through Dark Balance and Facedown Records, and we didn't look further. I think this was the best solution fans could get, as now the album is out in Europe and US. First priority was to get the album out fast.

I must congratulate the singer on having one of the finest death metal voices in the business. It really makes your band stand out among others. I noticed that there were some clean vocals as well on the last couple songs of *Wintereich*. Will that be a new approach for the band, or it just suited those particular songs?

Well, thanks. We have had those clean vocals on the last 2 albums and it has been a good spice for some and horror to others. I like them as they are on the new album, and it was again that the songs just needed that kind of element. Where the new songs will go, I don't know yet. We'll see if we do it again.

What is the metal community like in Finland? Is metal a popular or underground art form there?

Metal is up in Finland. Charts are filled with metal bands and our last Idol contest winner sings metal. It is very popular here. Growl vocal metal is another matter. It is still a bit underground, as it should be. It is not for everyone, even in Finland. Some rebellion is good to have with this kind of metal and I'm proud that we are a part of the underground.

Aki, thank you so much for taking the time to talk to me and your fans through Heaven's Metal magazine. God bless and good luck with the new album!

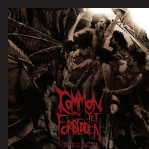
The new Immortal Souls album *Wintereich* is currently available in Europe through Dark Balance and in the US through Facedown Records. Don't miss out on this frosty metal band! (Editor's note: see review this issue.)



GRIMMARK

S/T

Melodic metal with a focus on precise, sharp, crisp and tasteful guitar playing. Imagine Eddie Van Halen sitting in with a jazz rock club's house band. Carl Johan Grimmark handles all vocals in a capable, slightly average yet pleasant manner. [Rivel] Doug Van Pelt

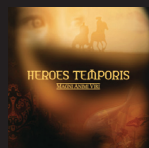


COMMON YET FORBIDDEN

THE STRUGGLE

I was excited about this release because I had been impressed upon seeing the band play live roughly a year ago, and had also enjoyed their independently released EP, *We Suffer Violence*. And although those were both great performances, I can only say the band has continued to improve and on the debut full-length the band pummels with slab after slab of metal of the thrash/death variety. Parts of songs employ a straight-up thrash attack with fast riffing, but don't think American or Bay-Area thrash. It's more like classic German technical thrash masters Kreator, Destruction and Sadus (although fans of Exodus and *Sanity Obscure*-era Believer should also check this out). But the riffage doesn't end there. Death metal is a huge influence as well. In fact, CYF cannot be fully pegged in either camp, one minute slaying me with thrash riff after riff, and then once again pummeling me with minor-chord melodic death riffs and blast beats. The lyrics are equally inspiring, re-calling the glory days of Christian metal, when lyrics could be both poetic and spiritually bold. If forced to rate this record, I'd give it a 9.5. And the only reason for the ½ point deduction is due to some strange editing/mixing choices where they've placed soloing over the top of vocal shreds. Even though this move is clearly intentional, it was too busy and I had to listen twice because it sounded like an editing mistake. Even having said that, *The Struggle* is a long-awaited dream come true for any thrash or death metal fan.

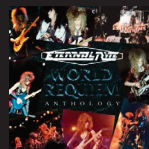
[Bombworks Records] Loyd Harp



HEROES TEMPORIS

MAGNI ANIMI VIRI

This Italian metal band seems very influenced by the predominant religion of its country. Oh my gosh, they bring the symphonic, power and prog metal forces with might! Did I mention that they're singing in Italian? (or is that Latin? No way! Can't be!) Pretty fantastic stuff. [Magni Animi Viri] Doug Van Pelt



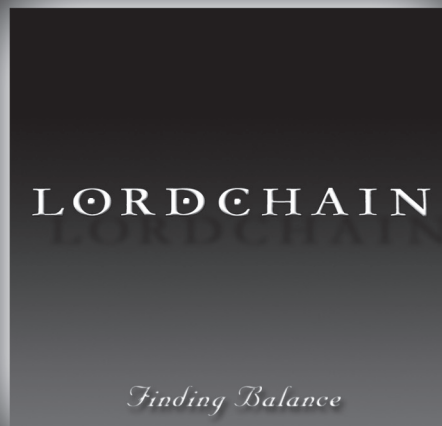
ETERNAL RYTE

ANTHOLOGY

Packing this re-release of *World Requiem* with bonus material is a treat for fans. It's a bummer that the original album didn't have hits or perfect production, as the band had talent. While the older demos and live recordings have even poorer production values, some of those older songs, like "Quiet Times" were really good.

[Roxx Productions] Doug Van Pelt

LORDCHAIN



Finding Balance

"Available Now"

www.blastbeats.com

Finding Balance is the highly anticipated follow up to Looking Past the Moment....it will not disappoint. Picking up where LPTM left off, this release has even more energy, groove, and passion.

OWN THE ENTIRE LORDCHAIN DISCOGRAPHY



Looking Past the Moment
2006



Soulever
2004



Cracked
2002



Self-titled
1997

www.lordchain.net

www.myspace.com/lordchain

THROWING DOWN THE GAUNTLET

By Steve Rowe

UNITY

I have heard some comments lately that bands like mine (Mortification) should move over and make way for "the new guard." This is disappointing because we are all in this tiny, independent Christian Metal scene together with similar endeavors to advance the kingdom of God.

I am a firm believer that the cream always rises (to the top)—proven by the fact that Demon Hunter and As I Lay Dying are hugely popular ... a lot more popular and successful than Mortification ever has been. Of course, Mort had an explosion of popularity in the early 90's, but now I just keep doing what I have always done to keep an old-school flavor in the scene and I see no reason to quit.

I guess sometimes people can view a "never say die" person as someone who should retire gracefully. But hey, look at Lemmy from Motorhead. He is 62 and will probably one day just die on stage. There is nothing graceful about Lemmy and we all know that as long as he is alive, he will rock.

I think we as Christians should encourage one another and I for one will always be first in line to congratulate someone who successfully presents Christian Metal art. We should never see each other as a threat, but as another army in the same battle. A chain is only as strong as its weakest link. There is so much disunity and finger pointing between different church denominations. I find this very sad because an army divided against itself will not stand.

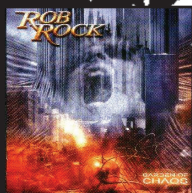
Let us as Christian Metal bands and supporters work together to build each other up in unity for the work God has for us to do. Together we conquer, but divided we will surely fall.



RADROCKERS

THE MOTHERSHIP OF HARD TO FIND
CHRISTIAN MUSIC

LOOK FOR THESE HOT TITLES NOW:



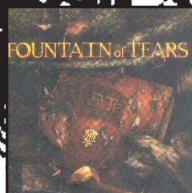
Rob Rock
Garden of Chaos



Veni Domine
Tongues



Narnia
Decade of Confession



Fountain Of Tears
Fate

WWW.RADROCKERS.COM

info@radrockers.com

PASTOR BOB'S INTERNATIONAL REPORT

By Pastor Bob

Old School At Calistone!

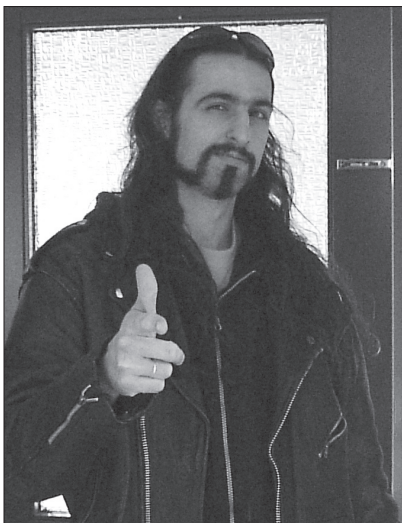
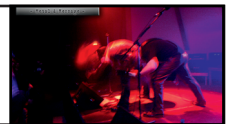
It seems like only yesterday when Bloodgood, Barren Cross, Neon Cross, Recon, Deliverance, and Vengeance and other big-hair and spandex bands took the stage at Metal Mardi Gras. But that was 20 years ago! Time flies. But what a treat it was to have these very bands back again to celebrate 20 years of Christian Melodic Metal. This was the first year Cornerstone decided to do a festival in California, so we thought it was a great idea to celebrate this milestone in the land where it was first conceived! We are all a bit older, chubbier ... and of course, our hair looks a bit different ... unless you are Les Carlson (Bloodgood) who still looks just the same! I am joined once again by some great friends around the world. Remember to pray for these ministries!

[sanctuaryinternational.com]



Germany, South Korea, & metal

Mathias Kugler & Mitch Auvenshine



Mitch Auvenshine – Seoul, S. Korea

Heavy metal in Korea has been around for the last twenty years, but some say it has reached its peak and is declining. That's hard to believe. The main representatives of the Korean metal scene are bands like Crash, Diablo, Black Syndrome, N.EX.T, and PIA. Black Syndrome is the oldest Korean metal band who is still going. Diablo experienced some big exposure when they opened for Pantera, Slayer, and Machine Head in Korea and Japan in 2000. Two years ago Seotaiji (a famous musician in Korea) attempted a metal festival with a mix of Korean and Japanese bands as well as Korn and Tommy Lee's band. They planned to continue the festival, but it only lasted one year.

The scene is too small, not enough clubs, fans are not committed, and the companies are corrupt. The future for heavy metal in Korea is unsure, but really depends on the passion of new bands, and whether or not they are willing to be independent. As for Christian heavy metal, it's not even an option now. The church in Korea is very conservative and looks down upon anything that doesn't fit the mold. I do think that a festival could do well here if the promoters did a good job, and got the right sponsors. It would be a good chance to break the mold. [thebreathingkorea.com]

Mathias Kugler – Schleswig-Holstein, Germany

It's been 5 years now that I became a Christian and following with that, God gave me a calling to bring the Gospel message to the heavy metal scene. But it was not until this year that God brought me together with this pastor and others that share the same vision. We started to do some metal events this year called "Hard Rock Halleluja" in order to launch a metal church, as a straight-edge missionary project. We don't want to provide a space where "alternative" Christians can have some fun, but we do want to see Christ's kingdom established in the heavy metal scene and see metalheads come to Christ and follow Him! [hardrockhalleluja.de]



"THE WAIT IS OVER!!!"

The wait is over... Roxx Records has secured the rights to release the long out of print **Eternal RYTE** release **World Requiem**. The band's debut CD has been a much sought after collectible with collectors paying top dollar for the original release on sites like eBay. Now available for a limited time and in a limited quantity this 2 disc set will feature everything you could imagine from this 80's glam band's history.

The 2 disc set will include the entire **World Requiem** release as well as 2 earlier recorded demo tapes. The 6 track **Anthem** demo was sold by the band and at shows prior to the release of **World Requiem**. Also the never before released **Untitled** demo, which includes 7 additional never before released songs. If that's not enough you will also get some exclusive LIVE performances captured in the band's heyday.

This deluxe package will be completely re-mastered, repackaged and re-released in a limited edition quantity of only 1000. The set is now available direct from Roxx Productions at www.roxxproductions.com and also at these fine retail outlets...

CD Baby (www.cdbaby.com) You can hear many samples here as well!
The Crossing Music in the US (www.crossingmusic.com)
Disk Heaven in Japan (www.diskheaven.com)
Rock Stakk Records in Japan (www.rockstakk.com)
Nordic Mission in Norway (www.nordicmission.net)
Metal Community in Sweden (www.metalcommunity.se)

This release is destined to become a collectors item so get your copy now while they are still available!

For Full details visit www.roxxproductions.com

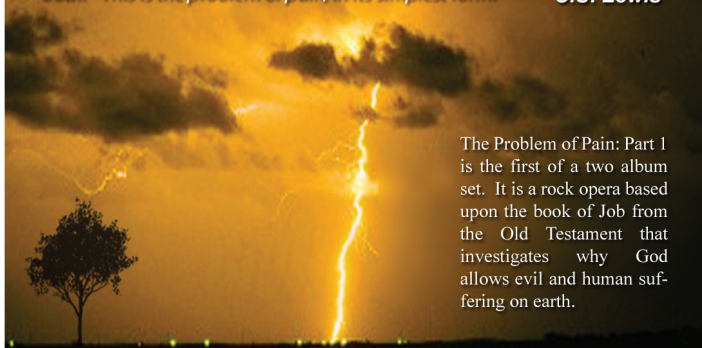
Coming in 2008 - The debut DVD release from Ultimatum!!!

ROXX
RECORDS

torman maxt

The Problem of Pain: Part 1

"If God were good, he would wish to make His creatures perfectly happy, and if God were almighty, He would be able to do what He wished. But the creatures are not happy. Therefore, God lacks either goodness, or power, or both." This is the problem of pain, in its simplest form. **C.S. Lewis**



The Problem of Pain: Part 1 is the first of a two album set. It is a rock opera based upon the book of Job from the Old Testament that investigates why God allows evil and human suffering on earth.

The Band: Torman Maxt

The Album: The Problem of Pain: Part 1

The Sound: Black Sabbath, Rush, Dream Theater, King's X, System of a Down, Janes Addiction.....lots of electric guitars, lots of acoustic guitars and everything else in between...

"This is that incredible band you knew existed, but have yet to discover...not since Rush 2112 has there been a concept album of this caliber... -TheProgFiles.com

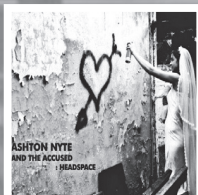


tormanmaxt.com



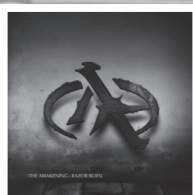
CIRCUS DAWN

Between The Lines Of Gray



ASHTON NYTE & THE ACCUSED

Headspace



THE AWAKENING

Razor Burn



JUNKER JORG

Ignite The Machine



BEAUTY FOR ASHES

My Secret Sin



THE AWAKENING

Sacrificial Etchings

NOW AVAILABLE...



FRAIL

Pieces Of Silence

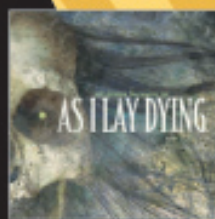
YOUNGSIDE
RECORDS

8961 Springwood Court
Bonita Springs, FL 34135 USA
239.989.2059

info@youngside.com | www.youngside.com

Christian Metal Superstore

CHECK OUT OUR HUGE INVENTORY OF THE LATEST IN CHRISTIAN METAL AND CLASSIC ROCK CDS



NEW RELEASES

AS I LAY DYING "AN OCEAN BETWEEN US"
ROB ROCK "GARDEN OF CHAOS"
IMMORTAL SOULS "WINTEREICH"
ARMAGEDDON "THE MONEY MASK"
MORTIFICATION "LIVE HUMANITARIAN"
ROSANNAS RAIDERS "FIRE FROM HEAVEN"
ULTIMATUM "INTO THE PIT"
DEMON HUNTER "STORM THE GATES OF HELL"
MAIN LINE RIDERS "SHOT IN THE DARK"
TORMAN MAXT "THE PROBLEM OF PAIN: PART 1"
MICHAEL DRIVE "ONE DIRECTION LEFT FROM HELL"
STRYPER "THE ROXX REGIME DEMOS"
STRYPER "LIVE IN PUERTO RICO" DVD
HORDE "LIVE IN OSLO"
BLOODGOOD "DETONATION"

QUESTIONS?
LOOKING FOR A CD?

Send email to:
orders@girdermusic.com

GIFT PACKS AVAILABLE ONLINE
STARTING NOV 23RD

T-SHIRTS - DVDs and more

OLD SCHOOL METAL T-SHIRT
WHITECROSS "1987" T-SHIRT
SAINT "APOCALYPTIC METAL" T-SHIRT
SAINT "THE MARK" T-SHIRT

ONLINE

www.girdermusic.com

BY PHONE

815-690-7728

BY MAIL

Girder Music

PO Box 5546

Naperville, IL 60567

Old School METAL

SAVE 5%
USE THIS DISCOUNT
CODE: HEAVENSMETAL07

girder
music

girdermusic.com

orders@girdermusic.com (815)690-7728

Is He
Still
Your
Reason?

Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. - **Luke 2:10-14**